

105.2061 - James Mills

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GRAPHIC

Dear Sir:

I have read in your paper and others false statements in reference to the Hall-Mills murder, supposed to have been said by me.

I do not know how my story was twisted so, but I certainly do not think it was fair. So in justice to Mr. J. Mills, myself and the Public in general, I would like to correct a few errors.

I never said Mr. Mills had a poker face or suggested they look behind it. I never called him the little janitor. I never said to see what he carries around in that brain of his. I never said the quarrel was on Mills' back porch and I did not say it was in the Mills home. I never said I could make out a word that was said. I never said I could see fleeting shadowy figures. I never said I heard a car start or any other sound except the quarrel.

My story follows, At the time of the murders, I was rooming on Hassart Street the second house from the corner of Abeal St. My room was on the third floor rear. Mr. Mills' back porch could be seen from my bedroom windows. Almost two o'clock in the morning, the day the bodies were discovered, I was awakened by violent quarreling. I am quite sure they were men's voices and at least two were in it possibly more. It lasted possibly 15 or 20 minutes, but I could not make out a word being said. The quarreling seemed to come from the direction of Abeal St. or near there.

Someone seemed to say something that made the quarrel die down, but I did not hear any other sound. I did not get out of bed and I went back to sleep.

I did not get up until late, and was in my room at noon, when the lady I was rooming with came into my room and pointing to Mills' house told me about the murder. At the time Mr. Mills' was on the porch and another man, a car was parked on the Abeal St. side of the house. I did not tell the lady I was rooming with about the quarrel, and did not mention it to anyone except a personal friend of mine, until now.

I did not wish to get mixed up in this, but now that I am, at least do me the justice of publishing only the truth, please.

I am telling you all that I know about this case, and hope you will publish this as soon as possible,

Sincerely yours,

[signed] MRS. L. FERGUSON